

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(☒) Release () Excise () Deny

Exemption(s): _____ Buenos Aires

Declassify: () In Part () In Full

() Classify as _____ () Extend as _____ () Downgrade to _____

Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

February 7, 1983

Ms. Kathie McCleskey
AAAS Clearinghouse on Science
and Human Rights
American Association for the
Advancement of Science
1515 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. McCleskey:

Ambassador Shlaudeman asked me to reply to your letter of December 9, and I have encouraging information for you. On February 3 the Argentine Supreme Court ordered the Executive Branch of the Government either to release Dr. Alejandro Raul Isla (spelled without an "s" in the press report) from prison under libertad vigilada (the conditional release that you mentioned) or to let him leave Argentina.

It will probably be a few more weeks before the Executive Branch decides which option it wishes to use, but based on similar cases during 1982, I would think that the Executive Branch will release Dr. Isla from prison under libertad vigilada (similar to parole in the U.S.). For your information, even in cases where an opportunity to leave Argentina has been offered to prisoners, a large majority of the prisoners have opted to stay in Argentina rather than go into exile abroad.

We will let you know of the Executive Branch's decision in this case when we have all the details.

Sincerely,

c.c. Daniel Whitney, American
Anthropological Association
Bob Schneider, Bureau of Human
Rights, Depat. of State
Victor Johnson, House Subcommittee on
Inter-American Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives
Ray Walser, Desk Officer, Argentina, Dept. of State

J. Anthony Allitto
First Secretary

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